

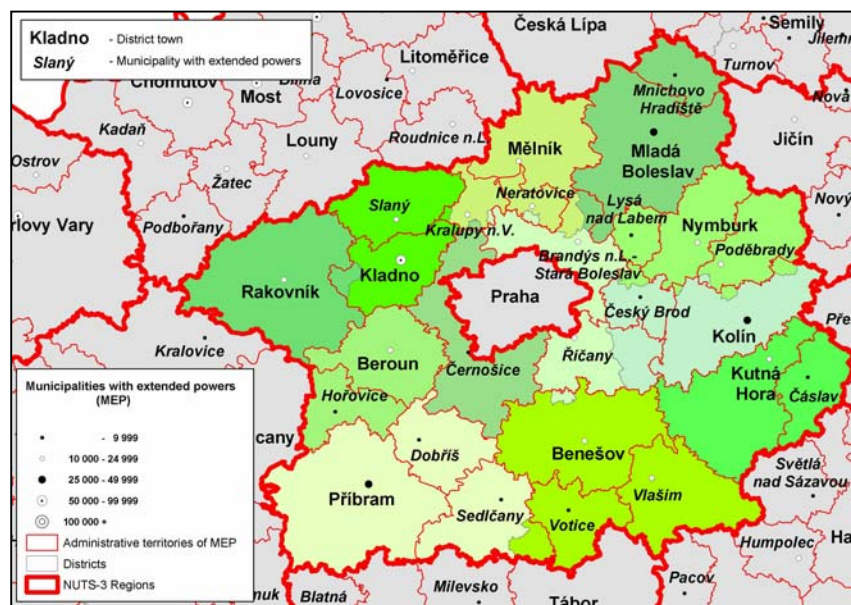


## STŘEDOČESKÝ REGION



The *Středočeský* Region is situated in *Česká Kotlina* (Basin), encircles the capital city of Prague and neighbours with the *Vysočina* and *Jihočeský* Regions in the south, the *Plzeňský* Region in the west, the *Ústecký* and *Liberecký* Regions in the north, and the *Královéhradecký* and *Pardubický* Regions in the east. This position significantly affects the character of the Region that becomes background of the capital city of Prague, provides labour to Prague enterprises, supplements Prague industry and services, supplies foodstuffs to Prague, provides its recreational potential, and is also a territory through which all roads, railways, power and other networks are passed to connect Prague with all regions of the Czech Republic and European countries.

The total area of the Region, 11 015 km<sup>2</sup>, accounts for 14% of the CR's area. The woodland of about 3 040 km<sup>2</sup> makes up 28% of the whole Region's afforestation, which is one fifth down on the afforestation of the whole of the CR. Agricultural land occupies 6 697 km<sup>2</sup>, the percentage of arable land being almost one third up on



the entire CR. The landscape relief changes from flatland in the vicinity of the River *Labe* watercourse to hilly land in the southern and southwestern parts of the Region in particular.

The *Středočeský* Region consists of 12 districts (*Benešov*, *Beroun*, *Kladno*, *Kolín*, *Kutná Hora*, *Mělník*, *Mladá Boleslav*, *Nymburk*, *Praha-východ*, *Praha-západ*, *Příbram*, and *Rakovník*). There are 1 146 municipalities in the Region, 9.6 km<sup>2</sup> in average area and 987 in average population. The capital city of Prague, which is also a separate administrative region, holds the function of the Region's centre. There are 65% of municipalities with 500 inhabitants or less, in which 16.1% of the Region's population live. The population living in municipalities with 501 to 2000 and with 2 001 to 10 000 inhabitants account for 26.1% and 20.4% of the Region's

total, respectively. The Region's smallest municipality is *Blatov* (25 inhabitants) in the district of *Kutná Hora*, the largest, *Kladno*, had a population of 70 thousand. There are 26 administrative territories of municipalities with extended powers in the Region, ranging from 113 km<sup>2</sup> to 952 km<sup>2</sup> and from 12 thousand to 115 thousand in area and population, respectively.

The diversified economy of the Region and the central position of the capital city of Prague produce a high potential of job opportunities and, therefore, a rather low level of unemployment compared to other regions of the CR. On the one hand, there are declining areas of industrial centres and military districts which are little utilized in the Region and, on the other hand, the offer of areas equipped with technical infrastructure for immediate use as industrial zones is rather limited.

### Selection of topical indicators

Number of inhabitants (31.12.2004)		1,144,071	Average monthly gross wage (2004) <sup>4</sup>		17,706
incl.	Foreigners with long-term stay <sup>1</sup>	20,927	Unemployment rate based on LFS (%; 2004)		5.4
	Foreigners with permanent residence	10,161	Employment in sectors (%; 2004)	Primary	4.7
Number of municipalities / towns (31.12.2004)		1 146 / 74		Secondary	37.0
Population living in the largest city (%)		6.1		Tertiary	58.3
Live-born children outside marriage (%; 2004)		27.7	Completed dwellings, total (2004)		6,127
Population with university education <sup>2</sup> (2004)	males	9.9	incl. Dwellings in family houses (%)		55.1
	females	6.1	Guests in accommodation establishments, total (2004)		854,987
Economically active population (2004)		578,375	incl. Foreign nationals (%)		31.4
incl. Employers or own-account workers (%)		19.3	GDP per capita (Purchasing power parity, 2003)		13,175
			Gross fixed capital formation per capita (in CZK, 2003)		55,743
Economic activity rate (2004) <sup>3</sup>	males	70.3	Net disposable income of households per capita (CZK, 2003)		132,102
	females	50.0			

<sup>1</sup> Foreigners with visas over 90 days

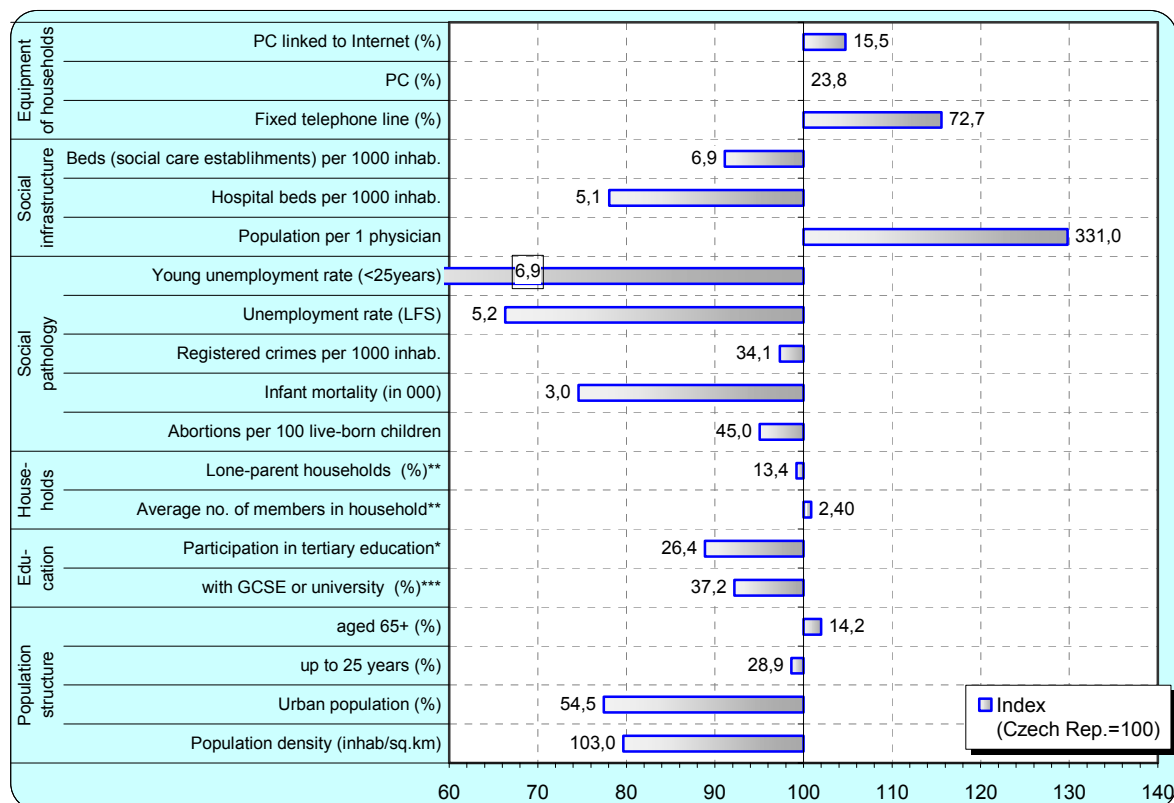
<sup>2</sup> Related to population aged 15+

<sup>3</sup> Share (%) of economically active persons from total population aged 15+

<sup>4</sup> in CZK, per employee in national economy (excluding armed forces), enterprise method (i.e. by head office of enterprise)



## Demography and social life - region compared with the Czech Republic



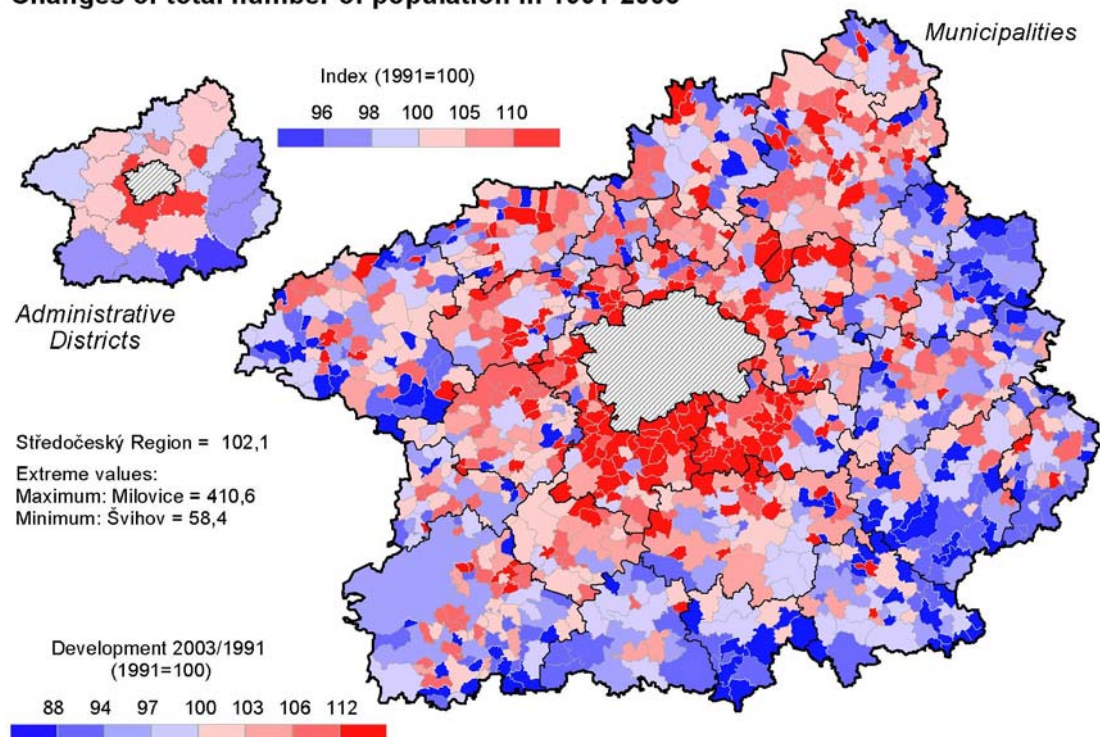
Note. Figures in graph (beside bars) express value of indicator (in region), x-axis relation of this value to national level.

\* Share (%) of students aged 20-24 in total population aged 20-24

\*\* From Population census 2001 (all indicators in graph refer to 2003, expect for abortions and infant mortality which refer to 2001-2003)

\*\*\* related to total population aged 15+

## Changes of total number of population in 1991-2003



**Population and vital statistics: 1993/2003**

Population, 31 December 1993	1,108,935
Live births (average for 1994-1998)	9,892
Deaths (average for 1994-1998)	13,445
Net migration (average for 1994-1998)	3,454
Population, 31 December 1998	1,108,465
Live births (average for 1999-2003)	10,122
Deaths (average for 1999-2003)	12,785
Net migration (average for 1999-2003)	6,818
Population, 31 December 2003	1,135,795

**Age distribution of the population: 31 December 2003**

Age	Total	Total	Men	Women
	Thous.	%	%	%
0 - 14	173.3	15.3	16.0	14.6
15 - 24	151.6	13.3	13.9	12.8
25 - 39	264.4	23.2	24.3	22.3
40 - 54	240.6	21.2	21.8	20.6
55 - 64	145.0	12.8	12.7	12.8
65 -	160.9	14.2	11.3	16.9
Total	1135.8	100.0	100.0	100.0

Skilled and flexible labour force increasingly direct their attention to services. Technical and communication networks have large capacities, and on the border of the Region's territory is the largest airport of the CR, *Praha-Ruzyně*. Almost half of the *Středočeský* Region's area is closely tied with Prague—it is part of the Prague Central Bohemian Agglomeration. Migrants from Prague, who want to work in Prague, but live in the cleaner environment of the *Středočeský* Region, grow in number. A considerable part of the Region has good conditions for agricultural production of high quality. The Region's varied landscape with many attractive nature monuments and points of interest meets pre-conditions for the development of tourism, recreation and balneology.

**A high rise in migration**

The population of the Region has been steadily rising since 1997; by the end of 2003 it had increased by almost 30 thousand. All increases in the population are due to high migration, especially to municipalities around Prague. It is Prague citizens that move to these places in particular to enjoy comfortable housing there contributed to by good transport services to and from Prague. The number of immigrants tends to increase. Over last four years it rose by next to 80% to reach practically 25 thousand persons. The number of emigrants increases too; in 2003 they totalled modestly over 15 thousand. An adverse situation remains in the natural change of the population. While the number of live births

started to rise in the year 2002 to go further on, it still lags behind the number of deaths. Almost 2.5 thousand inhabitants were lost by natural change in the Region in 2003. The number of marriages steadily drops, too, as distinguished from the number of divorces. The index of divorce rate—the number of divorces per 100 marriages—has already climbed over 60.

The age distribution of the *Středočeský* Region's population is shaped by migration to a considerable extent. Coming to the Region are persons at working age, so the proportion of this group increases more and more: it exceeded 70% in 2003. The proportion of the child population aged up to 14 steadily decreases, despite a modest rise in the number of children; in 2003 it was 15.3%. The proportion of the oldest population (65+) also dropped, namely to 14.1%. The dependency ratio, i.e. the ratio of the oldest age category (65+) to the youngest component of the population (0-14), continuously increases and is 92.8% now; in women however, it has already reached 116.2% because women are by far more represented in higher age groups. The average age has grown step by step and was 39.7 in 2003 (in men it was by 3 years down on that of women).

**A structure supplementing the economy of the capital city of Prague**

The structure of the economy and of a number of other areas of life in the *Středočeský* Region is definitely shaped by the Region's centre—the capital city of Prague. A large part of the Region constitutes a background of the capital city and also comes under the

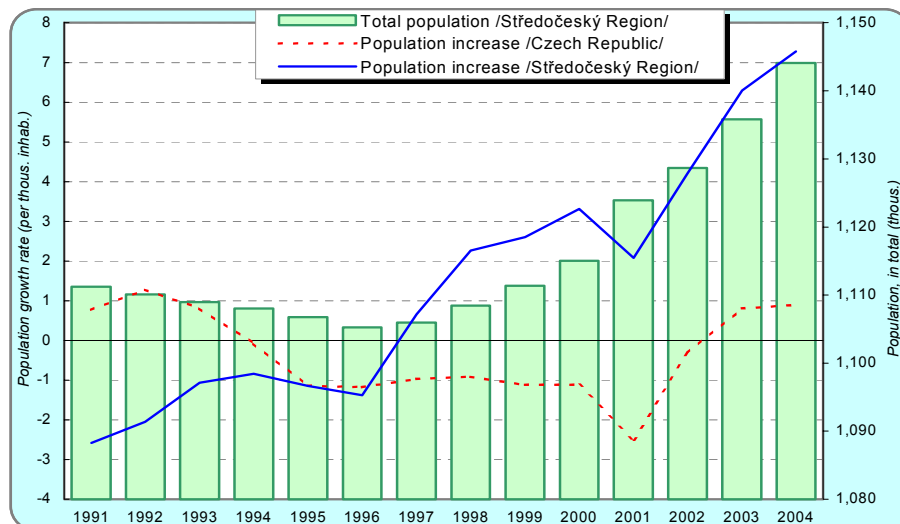
**Significant employers: by head office of enterprise, 2003**

Name	Head Office	Activity	No. of workers
Škoda Auto, a.s.	Mladá Boleslav	Manufacture of motor vehicles	> 10 000
DELVITA a.s.	Rudná	Retail trade	> 3 000
Delphi Packard Electric ČR, s.r.o.	Bakov nad Jiz.	Manufacture of electrical machinery	> 2 500
AERO Vodochody, a.s.	Odolena Voda	Manufacture of aircrafts	> 2 000
BILLA, s.r.o.	Modletice	Retail trade	> 2 000
ČKD Kutná Hora, a.s.	Kutná Hora	Manufacture and processing of basic metals	> 1 500
Penny Market, s.r.o.	Jirny	Retail trade	> 1 500
Plus - Discount, s.r.o.	Radonice	Retail trade	> 1 500
Sklárny Kavalier, a.s.	Sázava	Manufacture of glass	> 1 500
VDO ČR, s.r.o.	Brandýs n.L.-S.B.	Manufacture of measuring and controlling instruments	> 1 500



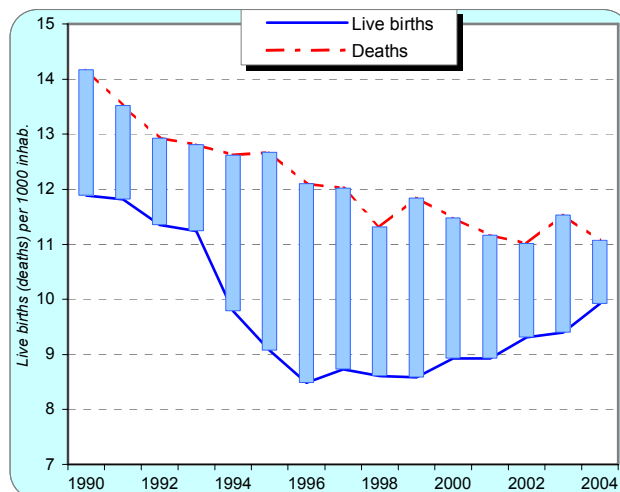


### Total population - development in region and CR (31 December)

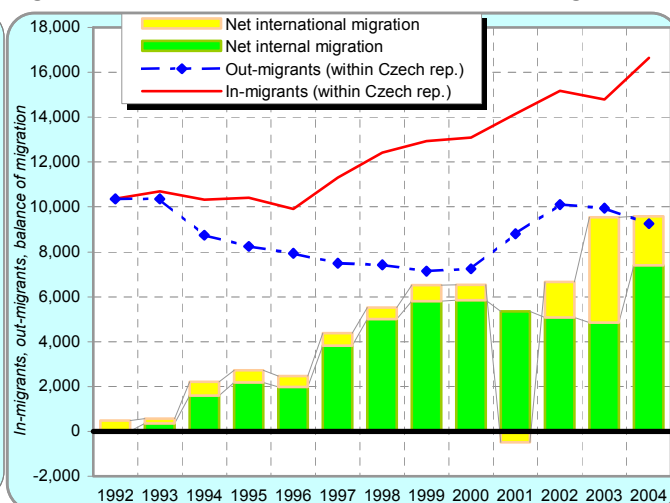


Data since 2001 reflect the Housing and Population Census (1.3.2001) results and also include foreigners who were granted long-term stays (i.e. foreigners with visas over 90 days). Population increase 2001 was influenced mainly by Census (1.3.2001), which found out higher population than that registered by yearly demographic statistics). Population growth rate was calculated as a difference between 1 January and 31 December (in 2001 population at 1 January was recalculated by Census).

### Vital statistics

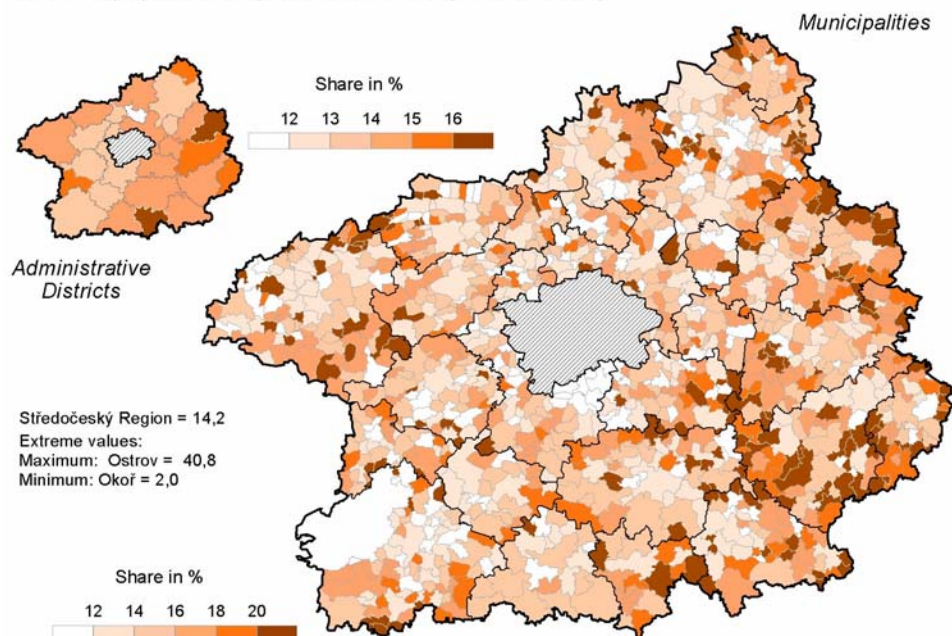


### Migration balance - internal and international migration



Since 2001, foreigners who were granted long-term stays are calculated as migrant

### Share of population aged 65 and more (Census 2001)





#### Agriculture: 1993 - 2003

Indicator	1993	2003
Agricultural land (ha)	669,829	668,196
Arable land (ha)	559,503	556,080
Persons employed in agriculture, hunting and forestry (thous., LFS)	41.5	23.6
Yields of cereals (tonnes/ha)	3.82	4.11
Cattle stock, total (1 March)	354,659	.

#### Health care

Indicator	Region	CR
No. of physicians per 1000 population	3.0	3.9
No. of beds in hospitals per 1000 population	5.1	6.5
Infant mortality (average for 1999-2003, ‰)	3.6	4.2

Prague Central Bohemian Agglomeration. The Region is a significant source of labour for businesses based in Prague, and on its territory the process of suburbanization also began to develop. Massive commuting to Prague (in 2001 163 thousand workers commuted to Prague, of which 96 thousand were from *Středočeský* Region) produces disproportions between regional gross domestic product (GDP) produced and the level of GDP used, especially in those parts of the Region where a strong socio-economic link with Prague exists. Another consequence is the relatively lower regional GDP per capita—this places the Region into a weaker half of the ranking of the regions. This also applies to labour productivity.

The structure of produced gross value added suggests a different industrial orientation of the economy in comparison with Prague. It is in order to talk about complementariness of the economies of the two regions. Manufacturing, trade, transport, agriculture, and forestry are key industries of the *Středočeský* Region. The first mentioned is the most important—it contributes to gross value added in the Region by more than a third. The second most important is trade (15%) followed by transport, storage, post and telecommunications (10%). In comparison with the nationwide average the proportion of GDP produced by agriculture (5%) and exceeding the average proportion in the whole country by a third is also significant.

Considered as positive can also be the area of gross fixed capital formation (GFCF). The Region's proportion of GFCF in total GFCF is higher than 11%, which is the second highest proportion in absolute terms and the fourth when related to one inhabitant. As far as investments are concerned, the most important are in manufacturing (45%), trade (9%), transport (23%, and agriculture (3%). These regional percentages are higher than the country's average.

#### Significance of schools in the capital city

The capital city of Prague has an important role to play in the education of the *Středočeský* Region's population, especially in the GCE subjects of secondary schools and of course universities. The municipalities of *Kladno*, *Kolín*, *Mladá Boleslav*, and *Příbram* are significant local, regional centres of education. The strength of Prague, which can offer corresponding employment, is also evident from the fact that the *Středočeský* Region has the second lowest proportion of population aged 25-34

#### Pupils and students: school year 2003/2004

Type of school	thous.
Nursery schools	30.8
Basic schools	105.1
Grammar schools	12.9
Secondary technical schools	16.8
Secondary vocational schools	15.9
Higher professional schools	2.1
Universities	0.4

with the highest education. Prague and other centres in the surrounding regions considerably saturate the Region's secondary education. The Region's proportion of graduates from secondary school GCSE fields of study is very low—in fact the eleventh among the regions—and because there is not any high number of secondary vocational schools in the *Středočeský* Region, the Region has the smallest proportion of graduates from secondary school non-GCE fields of study in the whole of the CR.

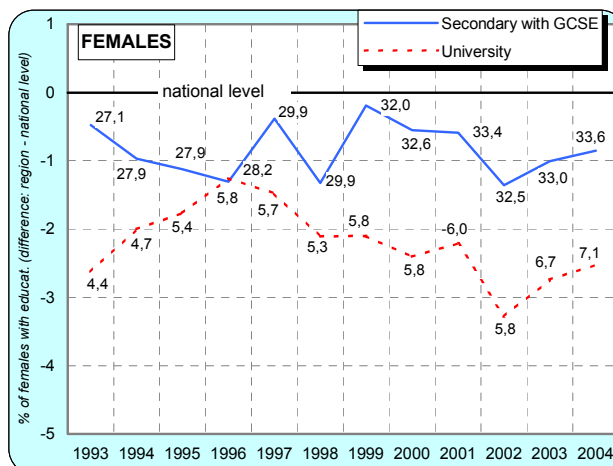
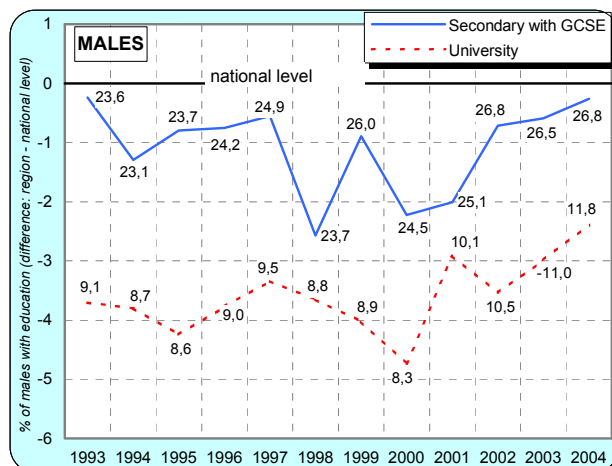
The educational level in individual areas of the Region can be established by the index education. The index is defined as the number of inhabitants with full secondary and university education per 100 inhabitants aged 25+. When the last census was conducted, the highest index of education (over 45) was found for the populations in the administrative territories of municipalities with extended powers in *Říčany*, *Černošice* and *Příbram*, while the smallest index of education (around 35) was established for the administrative territories of *Voříšovice*, *Sedlčany* and *Slaný*. The level of education in this or that region is also determined in part by requirements for education laid down by employers. This is why the higher index of education in the administrative territories of *Říčany* and *Černošice* is due to a higher proportion of workers commuting to work to the capital city.

#### Fewest physicians per 1 000 inhabitants

The health service of the *Středočeský* Region is heavily influenced by Prague. In Prague—a centre of every-day commuting for many citizens—the Region's citizens make use of a number of specialized health establishments, which do not exist in the Region, as well as common health services. The Region's health establishments came under the powers of the regional government and this increased the number of physicians in non-state establishments

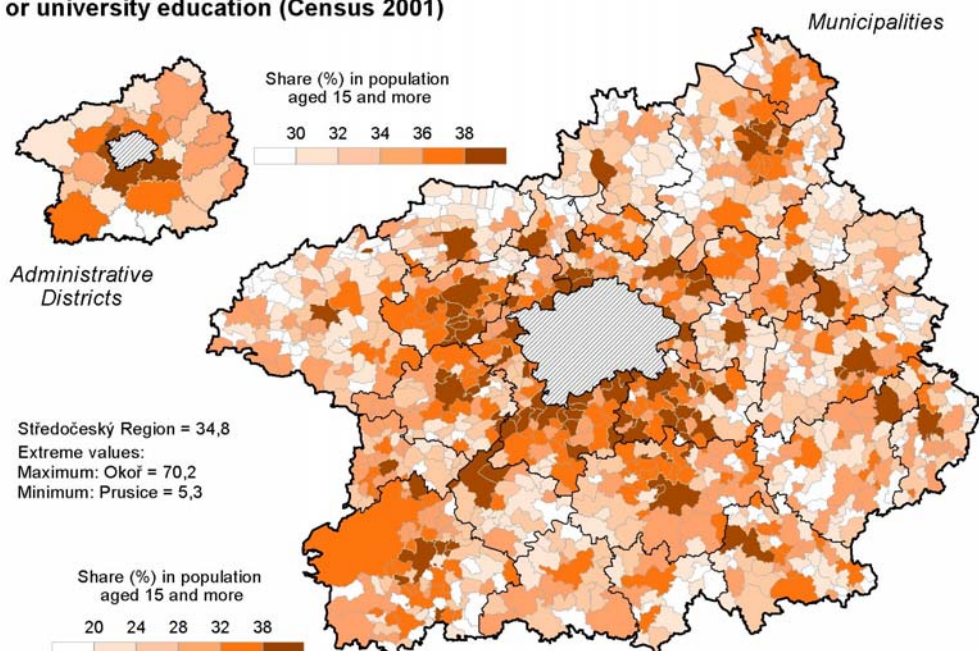


Share of males and females with secondary and university education - relation of region to the Czech Republic

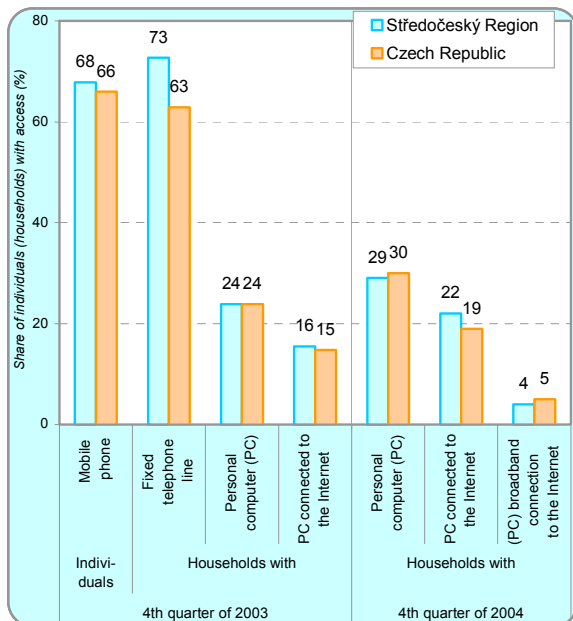


Note: Figures in graph express share of persons with secondary education with GCSE in total population aged 15+ in region, or share of persons with university education in total population aged 25+ in region

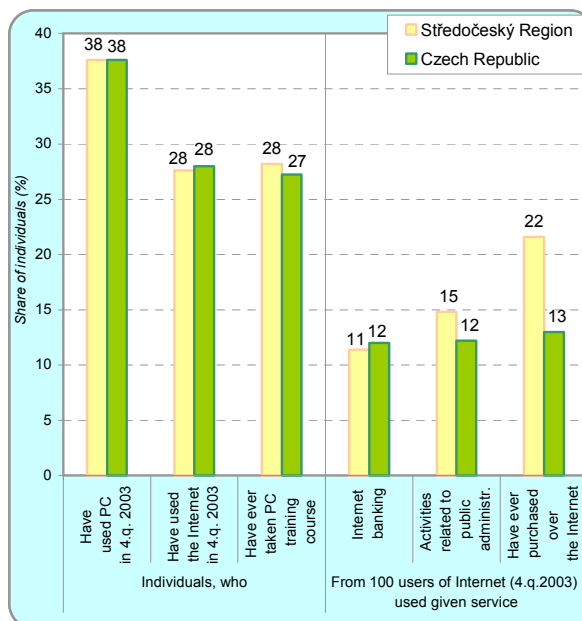
Share of persons with completed secondary or university education (Census 2001)



Access of households to information technologies



Use of Internet by individuals (aged 15+) in 4.q.2003





**Participation rate: by age group, %**

Age group	Total		Men		Women	
	1993	2003	1993	2003	1993	2003
Total	60.9	60.2	71.7	70.4	50.9	50.6
15 - 19	40.9	11.4	44.4	14.0	37.2	8.6
20 - 24	71.6	67.4	87.6	76.9	54.6	57.5
25 - 29	79.1	78.9	97.1	96.9	60.2	60.3
30 - 34	90.0	84.5	98.2	96.6	81.4	72.0
35 - 39	92.8	93.1	96.2	98.1	89.2	87.8
40 - 44	94.0	90.4	97.6	92.0	90.3	88.8
45 - 49	93.3	94.4	95.0	96.1	91.6	92.5
50 - 54	83.2	88.1	87.6	90.7	78.9	85.4
55 - 59	46.4	65.2	74.1	85.2	21.5	45.5
60 - 64	19.0	23.5	28.3	34.4	11.1	13.8
65+	4.4	2.8	7.3	4.4	2.7	1.8

**Participation rate: by educational attainment, population aged 15+, %**

Degree of education	Total		Men		Women	
	1993	2003	1993	2003	1993	2003
Basic and no education	34.5	24.4	40.1	29.7	31.9	21.9
Secondary without GCSE	72.1	69.9	80.2	78.3	59.3	57.3
Secondary with GCSE	71.2	70.3	76.3	75.8	67.2	66.1
University	80.9	79.5	85.2	80.0	72.9	78.6

considerably: as many as 96% of all physicians already worked in these establishments in 2003. Despite this absolute rise in the number of physicians in recent years, there is still the smallest number of physicians per 1 000 population, which is primarily due to the influence of Prague. In 2003, there were 24 hospitals in the Region whose number of beds has steadily been steadily decreasing since. Compared to 1990, the hospital bed-strength dropped by 36%.

Social care measured by the number of social care establishments is still at a fairly high level. While in 1990 there were 68 social care establishments in the Region, there are next to 120 of them there today. These establishments also provide services to Prague citizens to a large extent. In 2002, the Středočeský Region had 50 retirement homes, 14 boarding houses for pensioners and 158 community care service houses. Children's homes and social care institutions for adults and young people have a significant role to play in the Středočeský Region's social care system

**Employment strongly affected by the metropolis**

As one of the socio-economic areas of society's life the employment is markedly influenced by the closeness of the capital city of Prague that while being an independent territorial self-governing unit is also the Středočeský Region's centre where all of its administrative bodies, main institutions and regional organizations are located. Prague is also a million-population metropolis closely tied with its surrounding—its background—and thus almost half the Středočeský Region comes under the Prague Central Bohemian Agglomeration.

The proportion of the economically active in the Středočeský Region's population is rather above average—in total, men, women and all age categories—which also applies to young people up to the age of 24 and to pre-retirement-age employees. Over last 40 years the proportion of the economic active in working-age population was continuously growing at a half the rate of Prague, as also did the proportion of wo-

men in total economically active population.

Employment in the primary sector is modestly above the average. It dropped by more than a third over 10 years. The proportion of people engaged in industry was also decreasing and only every fourth employee works in industry now. Car making is the most characteristic industry of the Region as far as employment goes. Above average—second to Prague—is the proportion of people employed in market services. The employment in services of mostly public character (education, health, social care, etc.) is half the employment in market services and slightly below the average. Apparently, the centre exercises its strong influences here: e.g. the proportion of people employed in banking is negligible.

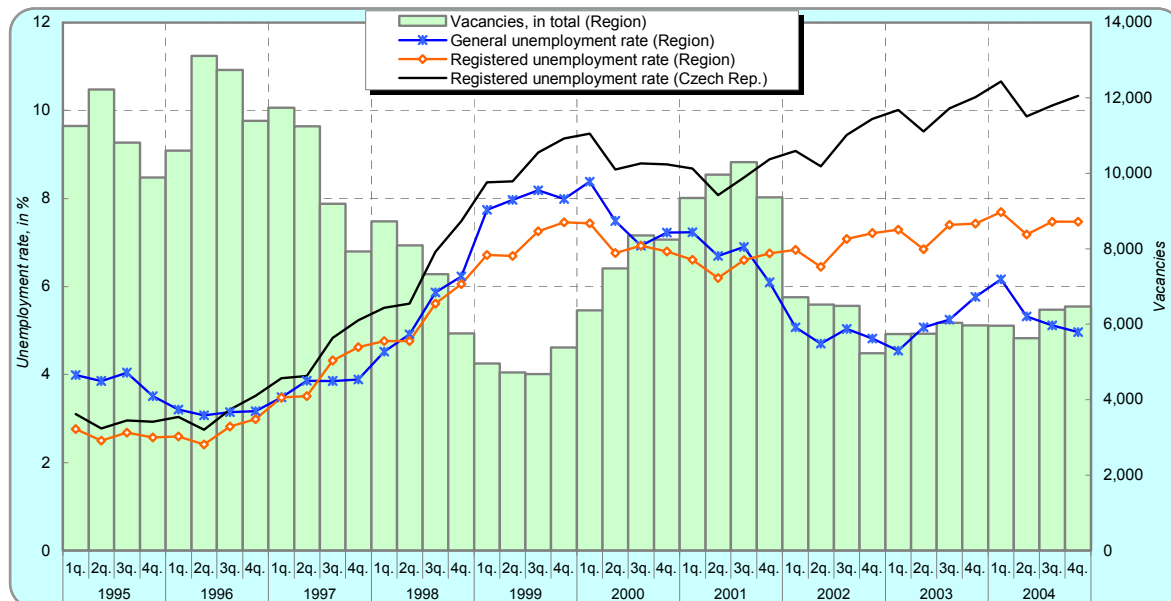
Similarly to the *Liberecký* Region, the proportion of the self-employed in total economically active population is the second greatest, next to Prague, but the educational level of the self-employed with employees is below the average.

**Unemployment affected by the vicinity of Prague**

Like the whole economy, the labour market of the Středočeský Region is also markedly affected by the capital city of Prague found in the middle of the Region. Consequently, the situation in the labour market has an above-average level, but there exist large differences within the Region proportional to the distance or availability from the capital city. One should also bear in mind that almost half of the Region is part of the Prague Central Bohemian Agglomeration. Where localities are within the reach of the Prague transport system and at place of concentrated economic secondary and tertiary activities tied up with the economy of Prague, unemployment is below the average of the country—especially in the south of the Region and the surroundings of the town of *Mladá Boleslav*, the centre of the car-making industry in the northeast of the Region.

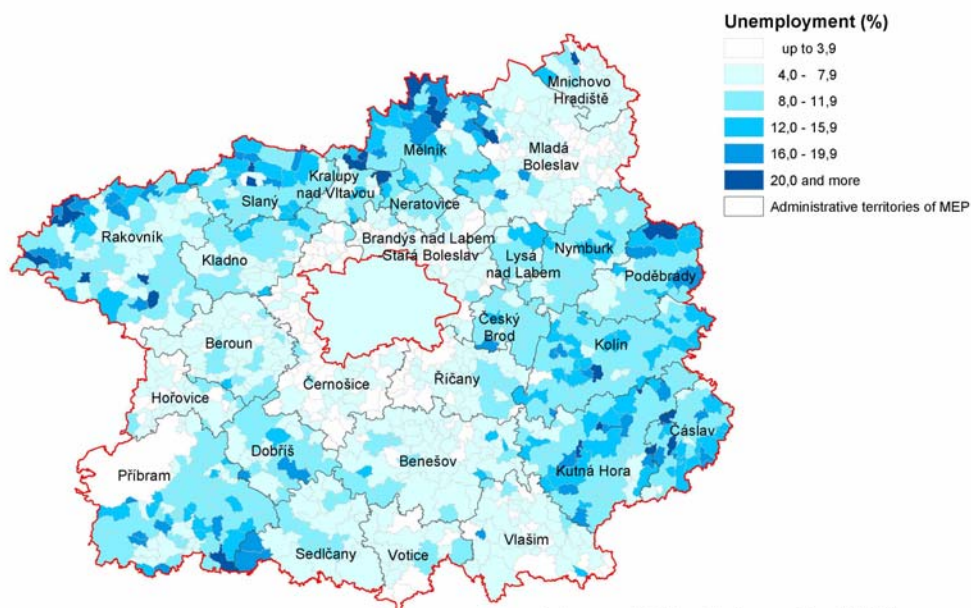


### General unemployment rate (ILO), registered unemployment rate (employment offices), vacancies



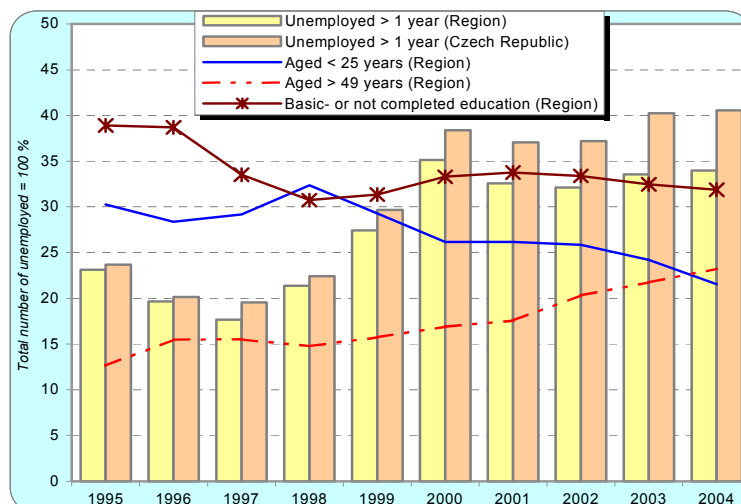
Note: Registered unemployment rate refers to the end of respective quarter

### Registered unemployment rate (31 December 2004)



Data source: Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

### Share of selected groups in total number of unemployed\*







### Structure of disposable income of households

		1995		2002	
		CZK million	Per capita (national level=100)	CZK million	Per capita (national level=100)
Allocation of primary income account of households					
Resources	Operating surplus and mixed income, net	25,912	108.8	43,978	118.2
	Compensation of employees	63,354	93.0	110,613	94.6
	Property income	8,816	112.5	10,856	118.7
Uses	Property income	3,138	118.3	3,053	114.5
	<b>Balance of primary income, net</b>	<b>94,945</b>	<b>97.8</b>	<b>162,394</b>	<b>101.1</b>
Secondary distribution of income account of households					
Resources	Social benefits other than social benefits in kind	17,019	99.6	33,241	96.3
	Other current transfers	5,680	100.5	9,678	107.3
Uses	Current taxes on income, wealth, etc.	7,501	97.9	12,721	100.5
	Social contributions	22,003	93.9	40,677	96.9
	Other current transfers	4,035	101.6	9,371	102.5
	<b>Disposable income, net</b>	<b>84,104</b>	<b>99.2</b>	<b>142,543</b>	<b>101.6</b>

Areas with high or even very high unemployment are mostly found in the northwest of the Region, in the neighbourhood of the *Ústecký* Region, whose unemployment is the highest in general, as well as in the southwest around the town of Příbram with the phased-out ore mining and last but not least in agriculture-forestry areas in the east.

Registered unemployment in the Region is almost double than in Prague, but even so it is one of the lowest in the country. The proportion of young unemployed people is slightly above the average, as is also the proportion of the unemployed with reduced capacity to work. The number of vacancies decreased by more than a quarter in last years and almost a 50% drop was recorded for the offer of jobs for young people and persons with reduced capacity to work. This also raised a great deal the number of job applicants per vacancy since 2000—by more than two thirds. The proportion of job applicants participating in retraining schemes is steady and one of the lowest. The proportion of unemployed job applicants older than 50 is mildly above average.

### Intellectual work and work of females not appreciated very much

The special position of the Středočeský Region in the area of geography, demography, transport, etc., affected to a large extent by the fact that the Region is the background of our largest city, an international metropolis, the capital city of the country, also holds for the area of incomes and wages. The disposable income of every inhabitant of the Středočeský Region is a little above the national average and ranks the Region second to the capital city of the CR. The average monthly wage is also the second highest (CZK 17 065 in 2003) and its growth rate is slightly under the one for the Czech Republic. So, the average wages in the Region and the country do not diverge very much.

There are no rather significant differences between average wages in the Region and the country as a whole, which applies to both groups of occupations, education groups and age groups. The wage ratio of non-manual to manual workers is the third lowest of all the fourteen regions, though. The Region ranks tenth when assessed by the female/male wage ratio. As for economic sectors, the highest wages are paid in the industry and

the second highest in agriculture and also market services (Prague is excluded).

The social/gross income ratio is the smallest of all the regions apart from Prague, and the proportion of households with income not exceeding 1.5 times the subsistence level is the second smallest.

### Not only the production of cars, but also places to drive to

The *Středočeský* Region forms a ring around the *Hl. m. Praha* Region and is closely tied with the latter in many aspects. More than half is part of the Prague Central Bohemian Agglomeration and forms the background of the metropolis of the country. The Region is considerably heterogeneous and has a number of significant industrial areas, a lot of large towns, and as many as 1 150 municipalities.

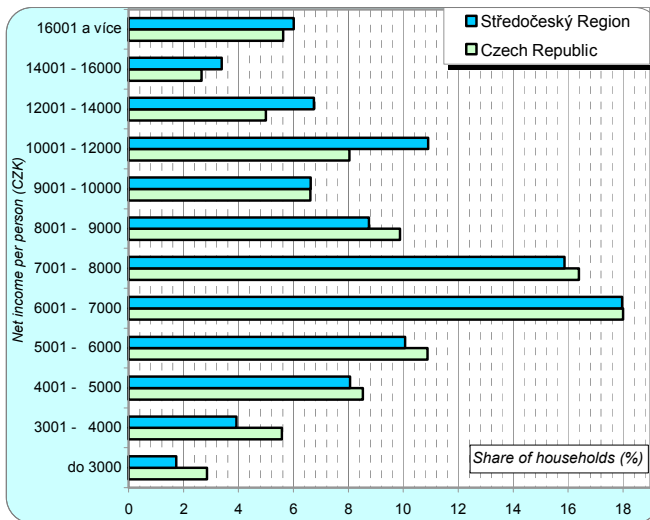
Arable land occupies over half of the Region's area and forestland less than a third. The share of gross value added produced by agriculture and forestry is about 6%, every one of twenty inhabitants works in these industries.

Production of *Škoda* passenger cars including parts and accessories thereof in the town of *Mladá Boleslav* is the best known of the Region's industrial industries and is also a reason of the highest reported sales in industry of all the regions in the country. The Region assumes a dominant position in the ranking of the regions as far as the total volume of goods exported from the Czech Republic is concerned: nearly 20%, of which machinery and transport equipment account for two thirds and of these two thirds passenger cars make up more than a half. The share of industrial production in gross value added exceeds 40% and tends to rise. A moderately rising tendency is observed in the share of gross value added in the sector of services as well as in the share of the employed, which approaches 60% already.

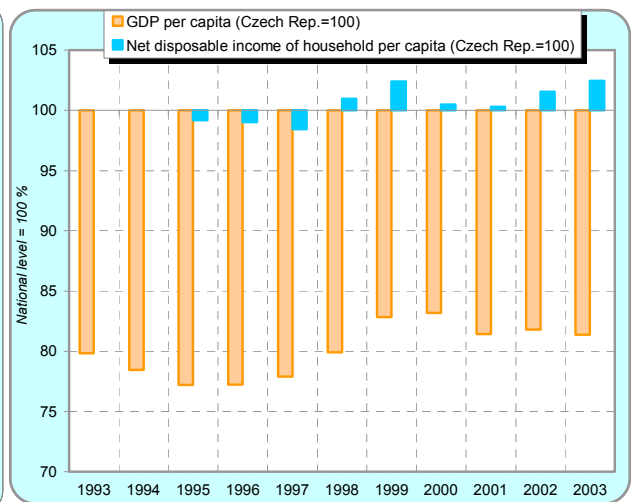
There are many interesting and precious sights in this Region so



Distribution of households (%): monthly net money income per person (%), in CZK, Microcensus 2002

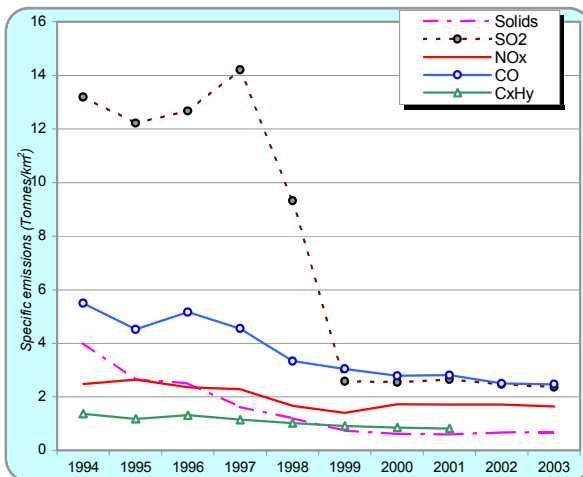


Gross domestic product and disposable income

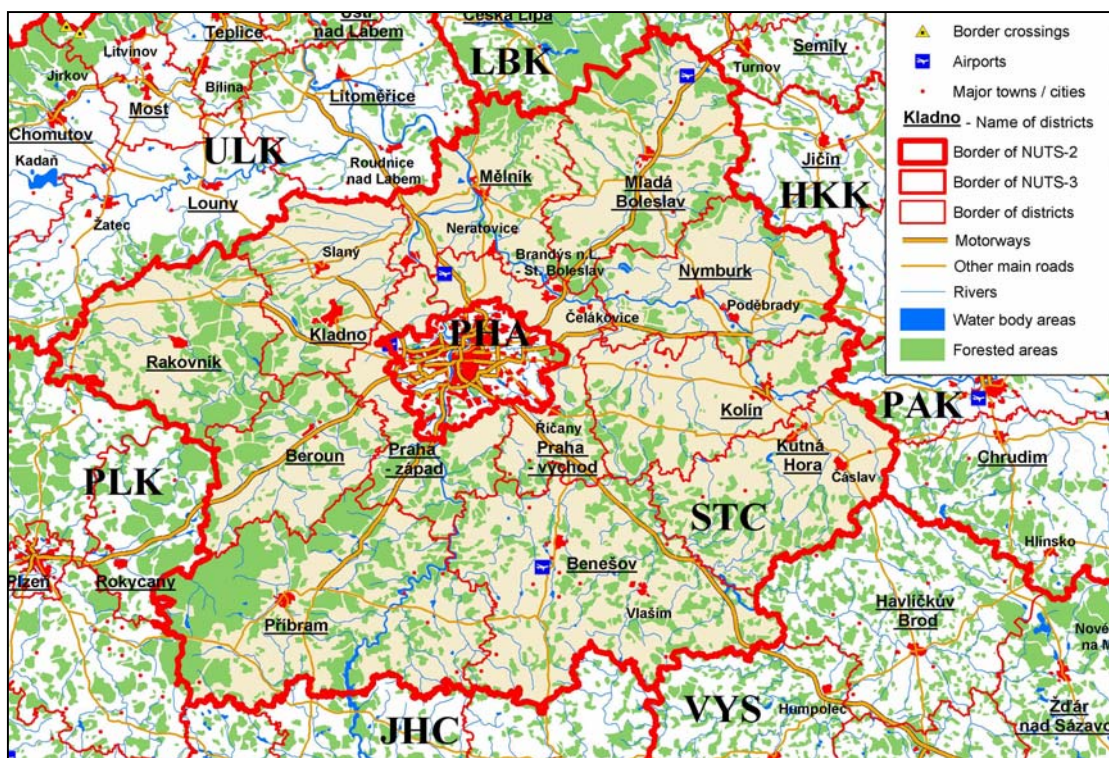
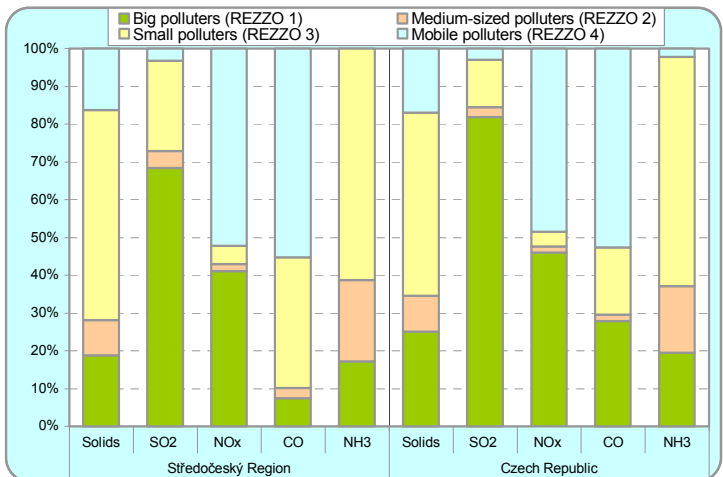


Note: Data on disposable income are available since 1995

Specific emissions of main pollutants (REZZO 1-3)



Structure of main pollutants by sources in 2003





## Tourism: 1996 - 2003

Indicator	1996	2003
Guests in accommodation establishments	611,581	834,559
From the CR	391,965	596,427
From abroad	219,616	238,132
Number of overnight stays	2,006,320	2,532,992
CR nationals	1,380,445	1,890,731
Foreign nationals	625,875	642,261
Average length of stay (days)	4.3	4.0

closely tied in to the history of Bohemia. They comprise castles, manors, religious constructions of all architectural styles, ancient centres of towns, etc. Well-known natural areas and places of interest attractive for tourists are found here, too. All this creates preconditions for further development in the area of tourism.

**Connection of Prague with remote surroundings**

Generally, the whole transport system of Central Bohemia is influenced by the position and arrangement of the region that surrounds the capital city of Prague on all of its sides. The transport routes running through the *Středočeský* Region have been forming a radial network for centuries. They meet in the centre of Bohemia. Of all the CR's regions, except for Prague, the *Středočeský* Region has the highest length of motorways and roads—one sixth of the national network. There are three motorways and eight „Class I“ roads crossing the Region. The road network is the densest of all the regions. The number of registered passenger cars is the second highest, which also applies to commercial vehicles. The number of motorcycles is by far the highest. The growth of motorization has been fastest of all the regions recently (passenger cars in particular). Understandably, this is closely tied with the number of accidents on roads, which has been second highest for a long time, as has also been the level of material damage due to the accidents.

There are thirteen main railway express lines crossing the *Středočeský* Region, of which almost

half electrified. They pass through most large regional towns. Under completion and approaching the start of its operation is the high-speed railway line that connects Prague with the capitals of the neighbouring and other countries. A lot of local lines raise the density of the railway network. Almost 1 400 km of railway lines in the *Středočeský* Region account for the biggest share (15%) of the total national railway network.

River transport has an important role to play. The *Labe-Vltava* waterway, about three quarters of which are found in the Region, is an important route to transport raw materials and supplies—it brings most energy-producing coal to large thermal power plants. The waterway is also the only waterway in the Czech Republic that is suitable for international river transport.

**Always in the shadow of Prague**

There are a great number of significant sights and several protected landscape areas (*CHKO*s) in the *Středočeský* Region. The most of the sights is found in the town of *Kutná hora* (e.g. the Church of St. Barbara, Italian Court, Ossuary), which is on the UNESCO List of World Cultural Heritage. There are also many castles in the Region, the most significant being *Karlštejn* and *Točnick* in the district of *Beroun*, *Křivoklát* and *Lány* in the district of *Rakovník*, *Kokořín* and *Mělník* Castle in the district of *Mělník*, *Kost* in the district of *Mladá Boleslav*, *Český Šternberk* and *Konopiště* in the district of *Beněšov*, and *Žleby* and *Kačina* in the district of *Kutná Hora*. The castle and park in *Průhonice* is favourite destination for daily trips of many

Praguers. *CHKO Křivoklátsko* is the most precious natural area of the Region (it is on the list of biospheric preserves). Other precious natural areas include *CHKO Kokořínsko*, *CHKO Český kras* (the Bohemian Karst), and *CHKO Český ráj* (Bohemian Paradise).

Despite its many places of interest, the *Středočeský* Region does not belong to the CR's regions most attractive for tourism. While being the largest as far as its area is concerned, it ranks fourth and fifth in the number of accommodation establishments and of guests, respectively. The floods in 2002 adversely affected the tourism figures. The tourism in the Region revived in the year 2003—the number of guests was even higher than in the year 2000, but the rise was brought about by domestic guests only. Most foreigners coming to the Region are from Germany, the second most numerous group includes visitors from Slovakia, of whom some, however, may be visitors coming to Bohemia to earn money.

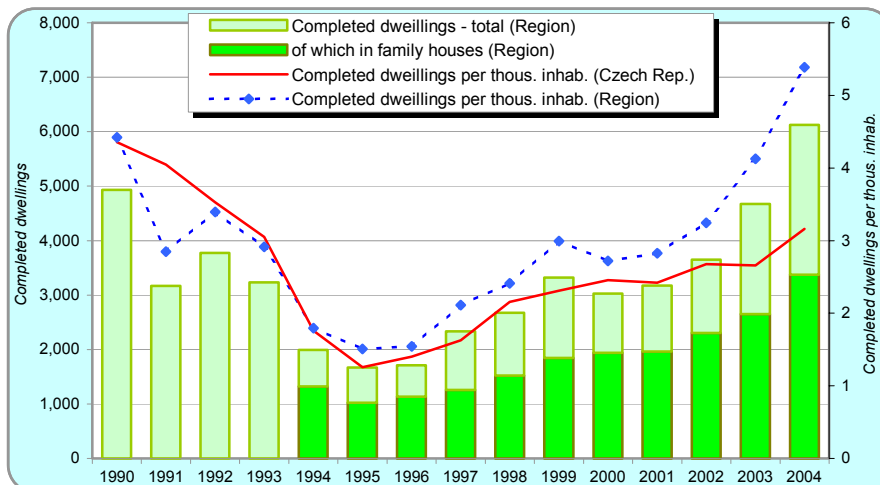
**Housing construction in the surroundings of Prague**

The 22.0% proportion of unoccupied houses in the *Středočeský* Region is well above the national average (13.3% of unoccupied buildings). The number of unoccupied houses used primarily for recreation grew by 28.1% between 1991 and 2001. There are 91 family houses in every 100 permanently occupied houses. The Region's dwelling stock was almost half a million dwellings (census in 2001), of which unoccupied dwellings accounted for 17.1%, which is more than the national average of 12.3%.

The number of completed dwellings was on the increase last years. In 2003, almost 5 thousand new dwellings was completed—57% in family houses, 22% in multi-dwelling buildings and nearly 10% in various types of extensions. The housing construction was most intensive in districts neighbouring with Prague (*Praha-západ*, *Praha-východ*), where the number of completed dwellings per 1 000 population ranged between 5 and 12.

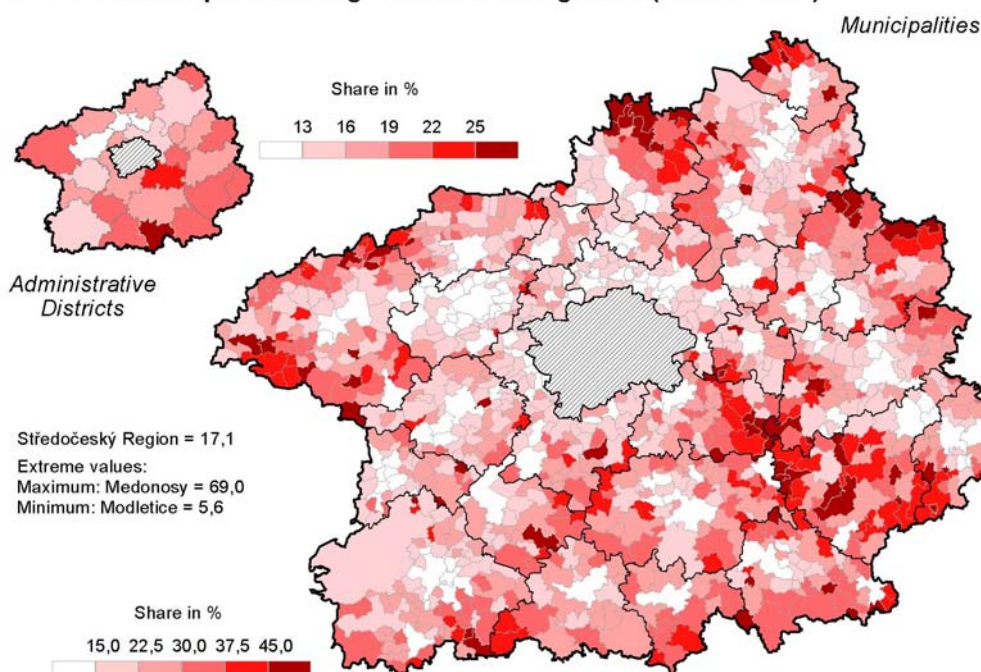


### Completed dwellings - in all buildings / in family houses

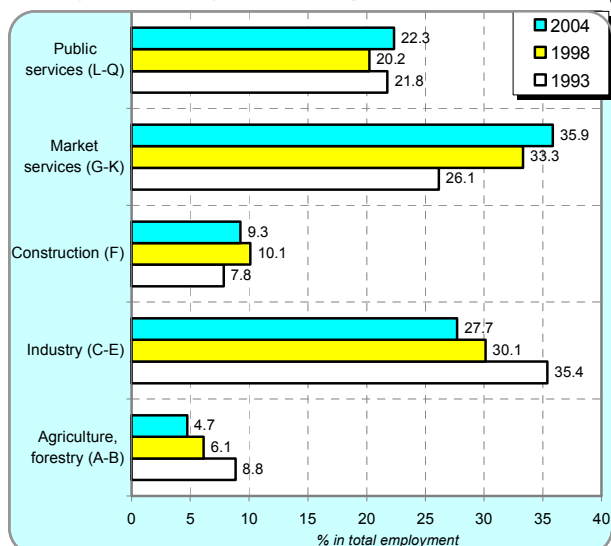


Note: data on dwellings in family houses are available since 1995

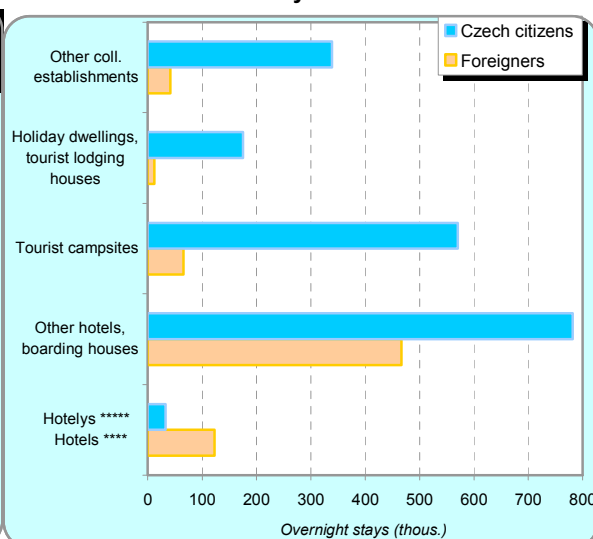
### Share of unoccupied dwellings in total dwelling stock (Census 2001)



### Employment in major sectors (groups of NACE)



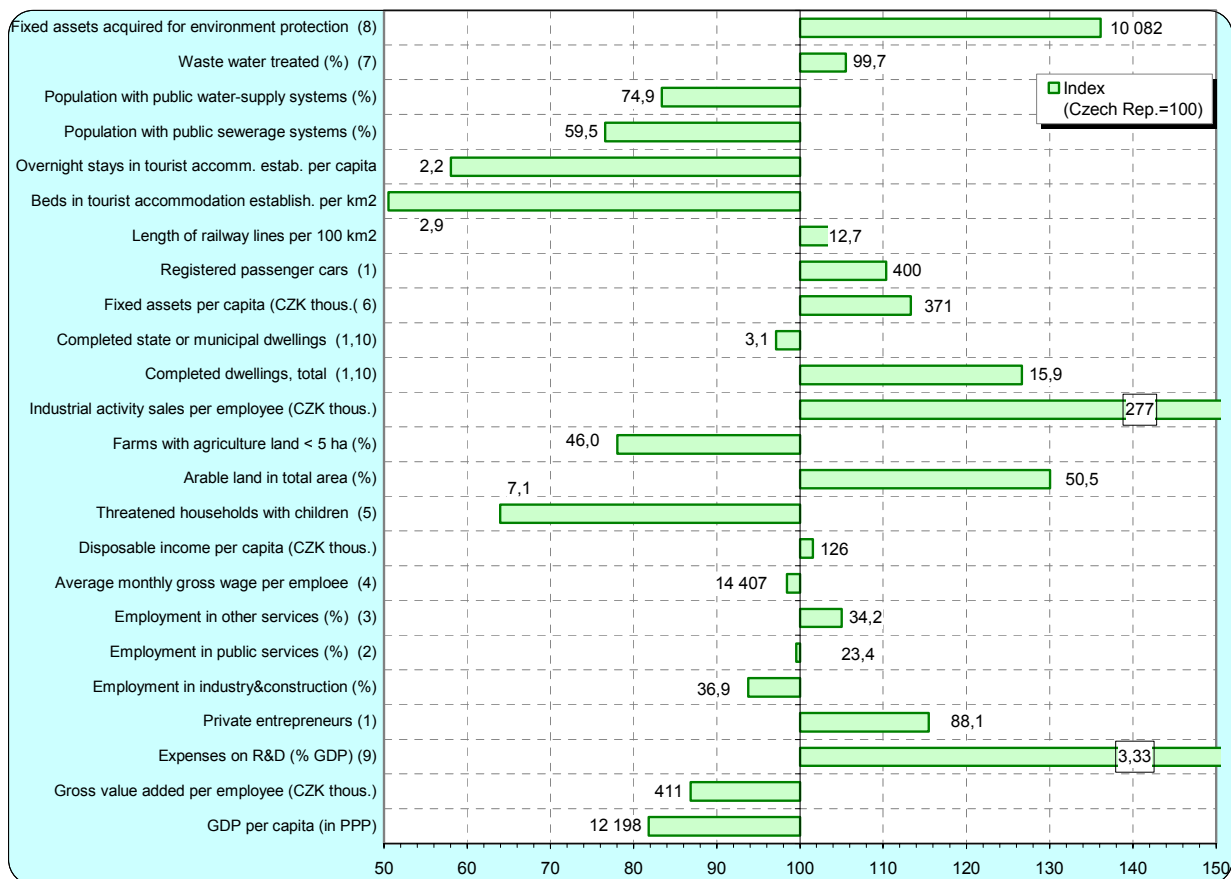
### Overnight stays in collective tourist accommodation establishments in 2004 - by class







## Economy and environment - region compared with the Czech Republic



<sup>1)</sup> Per 1000 inhabitants

<sup>2)</sup> NACE L-O (Public administration and defence; Compulsory social security, Education, Health and social work, Other community, social and personal service activities)

<sup>3)</sup> NACE G-K, resp. P-Q (Wholesale and retail trade, Transport, storage and communications, Financial intermediation, Real estate, renting and business activities)

<sup>4)</sup> Work-place method (in 2001, CZK)

<sup>5)</sup> Share of families with children registered by social care authorities ("social needed persons") in total number of families with children (% , 2001)

<sup>6)</sup> Enterprise head-office method (i.e. seat of business), sum for period 1995-2001

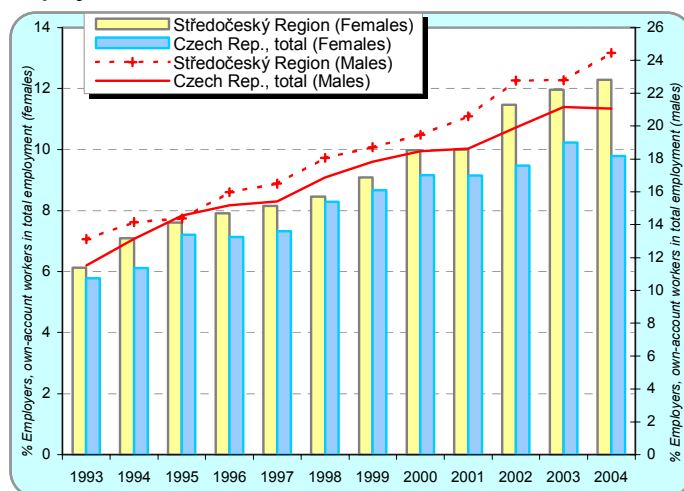
<sup>7)</sup> Related to total waste water discharged into public sewerage systems (=100%)

<sup>8)</sup> Work-place method (i.e. real place of realization), sum for period 2000-2003 (CZK, per capita)

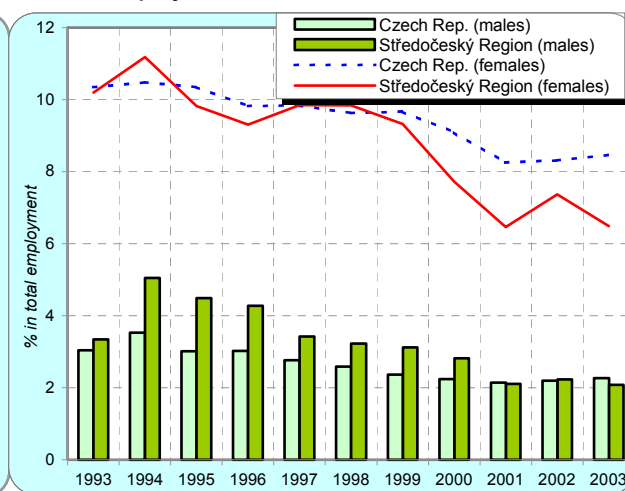
<sup>9)</sup> Average for period 2001-2003

<sup>10)</sup> Sum for period 1999-2003

### Employers and own-account workers - males, females



### Part-time employment - males, females





## Position of region among system of european NUTS-3 regions (rank: 1 = highest value)

Indicator			Postion among NUTS-3 regions in given territory (number of NUTS-3 units)					
			Region (Středočeský)	Czech Republic (CR)	NUTS-3 regions adjoining CR	EU -10 New states	EU-15 Former states	EU-25 total
			(1)	(14)	(27+14) <sup>1</sup>	(123) <sup>2</sup>	(1 091+14) <sup>2</sup>	(1 214) <sup>2</sup>
1	Population density (2002)	Value	102.2	129.4	126.2	100.8	120.3	116.6
		Rank	x	10 / 14	27 / 41	49 / 117	733 / 1105	771 / 1208
2	Total population increase (1995-2002) <sup>3</sup>	Value	2.3	-1.8	-4.0	-1.4	2.7	2.0
		Rank	x	1 / 14	6 / 40	13 / 117	517 / 1078	529 / 1181
3	Natural population increase (1995-2001) <sup>3</sup>	Value	-3.1	-2.0	-0.9	-0.7	0.9	0.6
		Rank	x	13 / 14	28 / 40	85 / 111	857 / 1078	929 / 1175
4	Mgrration population increase (1995-2001) <sup>3,4</sup>	Value	5.4	0.1	-1.6	-0.7	1.9	1.4
		Rank	x	1 / 14	2 / 40	5 / 111	250 / 1078	254 / 1175
5	GDP per capita (2002), in Purchasing Power Parity	Value	11,710	14,315	10,912	10,966	23,164	21,172
		Rank	x	8 / 14	25 / 40	33 / 121	1060 / 1101	1085 / 1208
6	GDP per capita (1995), in Purchasing Power Parity	Value	8,231	10,660	7,882	7,118	16,869	15,233
		Rank	x	14 / 14	33 / 40	32 / 115	1060 / 1076	1078 / 1177
7	Share of economically active in total population (% , 2002)	Value	50.7	50.0	45.3	45.5	46.8	46.6
		Rank	x	4 / 14	11 / 41	16 / 123	178 / 986	190 / 1095
8	Sh.of economically active women in total women pop. (% , 2001)	Value	42.9	43.4	39.8	40.5	39.2	39.4
		Rank	x	8 / 14	14 / 28	38 / 114	164 / 585	194 / 685
9	Employment in agriculture, forestry and fishing (% , 2001)	Value	6.4	4.8	12.1	17.0	4.0	6.0
		Rank	x	5 / 14	17 / 40	80 / 113	333 / 1063	408 / 1162
10	Employment in industry and construction (% , 2001)	Value	42.1	40.1	36.2	30.5	25.9	26.6
		Rank	x	9 / 14	16 / 40	22 / 113	74 / 1063	87 / 1162
11	Employment in services (% , 2001)	Value	51.5	55.2	51.8	52.5	70.1	67.3
		Rank	x	7 / 14	25 / 40	54 / 113	962 / 1063	1009 / 1162
12	Unemployment rate, total, based LFS (% , 2003)	Value	5.2	7.8	18.0	14.5	8.1	9.1
		Rank	x	12 / 14	31 / 40	107 / 123	603 / 991	684 / 1100
13	Unemployment rate, women, based LFS (% , 2003)	Value	7.3	9.9	16.7	15.3	8.9	10.0
		Rank	x	9 / 14	17 / 28	96 / 123	259 / 591	343 / 700
14	Unemployment rate, persons up to 25 years, LFS (% , 2003)	Value	7.7	18.6	26.7	32.3	15.8	18.4
		Rank	x	14 / 14	22 / 28	122 / 123	391 / 494	495 / 603
15	Bed in hotels and similar establishments per capita (2002)	Value	15.8	24.1	15.2	10.5	26.1	23.6
		Rank	x	8 / 14	26 / 41	22 / 118	586 / 1105	600 / 1209

<sup>1</sup> Missing data of regions:

2 NUTS-3 regions in Silesia (all indicators apart from no. 1,7,15) were replaced by figure for whole Silesia region (NUTS-2)

17 NUTS-3 regions in Germany (indicators no. 8,13,14) were replaced by 5 respective NUTS-2 regions

Different date : indicators no. 2 and 3 (all regions refer to 1997-99), indicators no. 12-14 (all regions refer to 2001),

indicator no. 7 (all regions in Germany refer to 2001)

<sup>4</sup> Missing data of regions:

Germany - 439 regions (indicators no. 8,13 and 14), France - 100 regions (indicator no. 14)

Greece - 51 regions (indicators no. 7,8,12,13 and 14), Netherlands - 40 regions (indicators no. 9,10 and 11)

Portugal - 30 regions (indicators no. 2-4, 6-8 and 12-14), Estonia - 4 regions (indicator no. 15) and Latvia - 4 regions (indicator no. 1)

Different date : all regions in Germany - indicators no. 2 and 3 (1995-1999), indicator no. 12 (2001)

all regions in Great Britain - indicators no. 7,12,13 and 14 (2001)

all regions in Portugal, Cyprus and Luxemburg - indicators no. 9,10 and 11 (2000)

all regions in Slovakia - indicator no. 15 (2003), and all regions in Scotland - indicator no. 15 (2000)

all regions in Latvia - indicator no. 8 (2002)

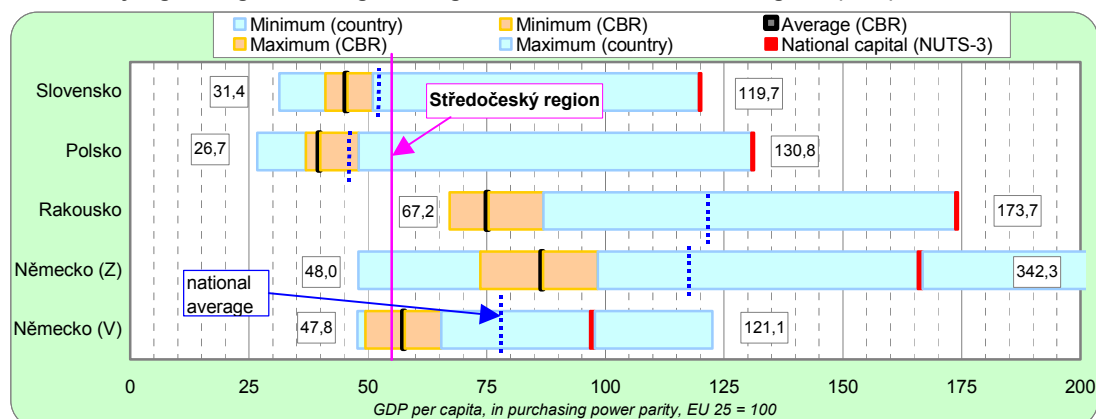
<sup>3</sup> Expressed as an average of yearly-increases (as a difference between mid-year population)<sup>4</sup> Migration increase is calculated as a difference between total increase and natural increase

Source: DB Regio, Eurostat

Note: Some figures (for CR and its regions) may differ (mainly due to revisions) from those stated in the previous part of this chapter.

This table tries to describe region in a wider international context, indicators were selected to cover maximum of EU regions (in given time)

## GDP (in Purchasing Power Parity) per capita in specific groups of NUTS-3 regions in 2002:

Středočeský region, regions in neighbouring countries and cross-border regions (CBR)<sup>1</sup><sup>1</sup> Cross-border regions include all NUTS-3 regions adjoining to the Czech Republic